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TO:	FROM:
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COMPANY:	DATE:
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FAX NUMBER:	TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER:
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PHONE NUMBER:	OUR REFERENCED NUMBER:
	ER-035-US-01
RE:	YOUR REFERENCE NUMBER:
09/193,889	09/193,889

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☐ URGENT ☐ FOR REVIEW ☐ PLEASE COMMENT ☐ PLEASE REPLY ☐ PLEASE RECYCLE

NOTES/COMMENTS:

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Greg S. Mueller et al.	Art Unit: 1774
Serial No.:	09/193,889	Examiner: R. Weisberger
Filed:	November 18, 1998	
Title:	MOISTURE ACTIVATED REINFORCEMENT STRING AND TEAR OPENING TAPES FOR CORRUGATED AND CARTON STOCK CONTAINERS	

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231
ATTN: OFFICE OF PETITIONS

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I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.8(a) that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, facsimile number (703) 308-6916, on October 25, 2002.

Allison Johnson
Signature

Allison Johnson
Typed or Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate

Docket No.: ER-035-US-01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Greg S. Mueller et al.	Art Unit: 1774
Serial No.:	09/193,889	Examiner: Weisberger
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TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Enclosed for filing in the above-captioned application please find:

1) Petition to Revive Abandoned Application Under 37 CFR 1.137(b) (in duplicate), which includes an authorization to charge the Petition Fee of §1280.00 to Deposit Account No. 06-2241;

2) Tab 1, Amendment (6 pages);

3) Tab 2, Clean Version of the Amended and New Claims (4 pages); and

4) Tab 3, Marked-Up Version of the Amended and New Claims (4 pages).

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-2241.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 25, 2002

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Allison Johnson

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#11

Attorney Docket No.: ER-035-US-01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Greg S. Mueller et al.	Art Unit: 1774
Serial No.:	09/193,889	Examiner: Weisberger
Filed:	November 18, 1998	
Title:	MOISTURE ACTIVATED REINFORCEMENT STRING AND TEAR OPENING TAPES FOR CORRUGATED AND CARTON STOCK CONTAINERS	

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231
ATTN: OFFICE OF PETITIONS

PETITION TO REVIVE ABANDONED APPLICATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.137(b)

Applicants hereby petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b) to revive the above-captioned abandoned application. The entire delay in filing the attached reply from the due date for the reply until the filing of this petition pursuant to 37 CFR 1.137(b) was unintentional.

The required reply in the form of an Amendment in response to the outstanding Office action dated March 27, 2000, is submitted herewith at Tab 1.

Please charge the Petition fee of $1280.00 required under 37 CFR 1.17(m) to Deposit Account No. 06-2241.

Please charge any additional fees owing or credit any overpayments made to Deposit Account No. 06-2241.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 25, 2002

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Reg. No. 36,173

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Allison Johnson

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TAB 1

#12

Docket No.: ER-035-US-01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Greg S. Mueller et al.	Art Unit: 1774
Serial No.:	09/193,889	Examiner: Weisberger
Filed:	November 18, 1998	
Title:	MOISTURE ACTIVATED REINFORCEMENT STRING AND TEAR OPENING TAPES FOR CORRUGATED AND CARTON STOCK CONTAINERS	

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231
ATTN: OFFICE OF PETITIONS

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AMENDMENT

In response to the outstanding Office action in the above-captioned application dated March 27, 2000, Applicants submit the following amendments and remarks.

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows.

Claims 1-16 are withdrawn from further consideration.

17.(Amended) A method of reinforcing a container comprising:

a) providing a continuous fibrous composite comprising a continuous fibrous substrate coated on at least one surface with a moisture activatable adhesive composition;

b) positioning said continuous fibrous composite between at least two layers of a container; and

c) exposing said layers to moisture such that a fiber tearing bond is formed.

18.(Amended) A method of reinforcing a container comprising:

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Allison Johnson
Signature

Allison Johnson
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a) providing a continuous fibrous composite comprising a continuous fibrous substrate coated on at least one surface with a moisture activatable adhesive composition;

b) moistening said continuous fibrous composite; and

c) positioning said continuous fibrous composite on the surface of a container.

Please add the following new claims:

19.(New) The method of claim 17 wherein said adhesive composition is a remoistenable adhesive.

20. (New) The method of claim 19 wherein said adhesive composition is a hot melt remoistenable adhesive.

21.(New) The method of claim 18 wherein said adhesive composition is a remoistenable adhesive.

22.(New) The method of claim 21 wherein said adhesive composition is a hot melt remoistenable adhesive.

23.(New) The method of claim 17 wherein said adhesive composition exhibits good block resistance when tested according to the Blocking Resistance Test Method.

24.(New) The method of claim 19 wherein said remoistenable adhesive composition is disposed on at least two opposing surfaces of said composite.

25.(New) The method of claim 18 wherein said container comprises a handle, said composite being disposed on a surface of said handle.

26.(New) The method of claim 17 wherein said composite is a tape ranging in width from about 0.2 mm to about 90 mm.

27.(New) The method of claim 17 wherein said composite is a string ranging in size from about 0.5 mm to about 5 mm.

28.(New) The method of claim 17 wherein said fibrous substrate is comprised of fiberglass, polyester, rayon, nylon, aramide fiber, a woven web, a non-woven web, and mixtures thereof.

29.(New) The method of claim 17 wherein the softening point of the fibrous substrate is greater than about 170°C.

30.(New) The method of claim 17 wherein said adhesive composition is a dried remoistenable water based adhesive and exhibits good block resistance when tested according to the Blocking Resistance Test Method.

31.(New) The method of claim 17 wherein said adhesive composition comprises at least 50 % moisture activatable ingredients.

32.(New) The method of claim 17 wherein said adhesive composition comprises at least one moisture activatable polymer.

33.(New) The method of claim 23 wherein said adhesive composition is nonblocking at 38°C and 90 % relative humidity.

34.(New) The method of claim 20 wherein said adhesive composition comprises:

a) from about 10 % by weight to about 90 % by weight of at least one crystalline water sensitive thermoplastic polymer;

b) from about 10 % by weight to about 90 % by weight of at least one amorphous water sensitive thermoplastic polymer; and

c) up to about 30 % by weight of at least one wax.

35.(New) The method of claim 18 wherein said adhesive composition exhibits good block resistance when tested according to the Blocking Resistance Test Method.

36.(New) The method of claim 35 wherein said adhesive composition is nonblocking at 38°C and 90 % relative humidity.

37.(New) The method of claim 22 wherein said adhesive composition comprises:

a) from about 10 % by weight to about 90 % by weight of at least one crystalline water sensitive thermoplastic polymer;

b) from about 10 % by weight to about 90 % by weight of at least one amorphous water sensitive thermoplastic polymer; and

c) up to about 30 % by weight of at least one wax.

38.(New) A method of making a container, said method comprising:

a) positioning a continuous fibrous composite between a first layer of a container composite and a second layer of a container composite, said continuous fibrous composite comprising a continuous fibrous substrate and a moisture activatable adhesive composition disposed on at least one surface of said continuous fibrous substrate; and

b) exposing said layers to moisture such that a fiber tearing bond is formed between said continuous fibrous composite and at least one of said first layer and said second layer.

Remarks

As a preliminary matter, it is Applicants understanding that no previously filed amendments have been entered in the above-captioned application. Applicants

respectfully request that the Examiner disregard all previously filed unentered Amendments.

Claims 1-16 are withdrawn from consideration. Claims 17 and 18 have been rewritten in independent form. New claims 19-38 have been added. No New matter has been added.

Support for new claims 19-38 can be found in general through out Applicants' Specification and in particular, for example, as follows: claims 19-22, original claim 8; claim 23, page 16, lines 15-30 and Example 10; claims 24 and 35, page 4, lines 8-10; claim 25, page 7, lines 15-16; claim 26, original claim 3; claim 27, original claim 4; claim 28, original claim 6; claim 29, original claim 7; claim 30, original claim 9; claim 31, original claim 11; claim 32, original claim 12; claims 33 and 36, original claim 13; claims 34 and 37, original claim 15; claim 38, original claim 17 and Example 1.

Examination and reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

The claims pending in the above-captioned application currently stand restricted as follows: Group I, claims 1-15, Group II, claim 16, and Group III claims 17 and 18. Applicants confirm their election to prosecute the claims of Group III, i.e., claims 17 and 18, with traverse. While the claims of Groups I-III are independently patentable, they are nevertheless related through the common element of a continuous fibrous composite. Although the claims of the three groups are classified differently, it will not be an undue burden for the Examiner to examine all three groups at one time, as the same classes and subclasses are subject to search. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the restriction requirement.

Applicants expressly reserve the right to prosecute the claims of Groups I and II, i.e., claims 1-16, at a later date.

Claims 17-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over Wosaba al el, U.S. Patent No. 4,784,271.

Applicants submit that the amendments to claims 17 and 18 render moot the rejection of claims 17 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over Wosaba et al., and respectfully request that it be withdrawn.

The claims now pending in the application are in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned should a teleconference interview facilitate prosecution of this application.

Please charge any additional fees owing or credit any overpayment made to Deposit Account No. 06-2241.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 25, 2002

Allison Johnson
Reg. No. 36,173

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TAB 2

CLEAN VERSION OF THE AMENDED AND NEW CLAIMS

17. A method of reinforcing a container comprising:

a) providing a continuous fibrous composite comprising a continuous fibrous substrate coated on at least one surface with a moisture activatable adhesive composition;

b) positioning said continuous fibrous composite between at least two layers of a container; and

c) exposing said layers to moisture such that a fiber tearing bond is formed.

18. A method of reinforcing a container comprising:

a) providing a continuous fibrous composite comprising a continuous fibrous substrate coated on at least one surface with a moisture activatable adhesive composition;

b) moistening said continuous fibrous composite; and

c) positioning said continuous fibrous composite on the surface of a container.

19. The method of claim 17 wherein said adhesive composition is a remoistenable adhesive.

20. The method of claim 19 wherein said adhesive composition is a hot melt remoistenable adhesive.

21. The method of claim 18 wherein said adhesive composition is a remoistenable adhesive.

22. The method of claim 21 wherein said adhesive composition is a hot melt remoistenable adhesive.

23. The method of claim 17 wherein said adhesive composition exhibits good block resistance when tested according to the Blocking Resistance Test Method.

24. The method of claim 19 wherein said remoistenable adhesive composition is disposed on at least two opposing surfaces of said composite.

25. The method of claim 18 wherein said container further comprises a handle, said composite being disposed on a surface of said handle.

26. The method of claim 17 wherein said composite is a tape having a width from about 0.2 mm to about 90 mm.

27. The method of claim 17 wherein said composite is a string having a size from about 0.5 mm to about 5 mm.

28. The method of claim 17 wherein said fibrous substrate is comprised of fiberglass, polyester, rayon, nylon, aramide fiber, a woven web, a non-woven web, and mixtures thereof.

29. The method of claim 17 wherein the softening point of the fibrous substrate is greater than about 170°C.

30. The method of claim 17 wherein said adhesive composition is a dried remoistenable water based adhesive and exhibits good block resistance when tested according to the Blocking Resistance Test Method.

31. The method of claim 17 wherein said adhesive composition comprises at least 50 % moisture activatable ingredients.

32. The method of claim 17 wherein said adhesive composition comprises at least one moisture activatable polymer.

33. The method of claim 23 wherein said adhesive composition is nonblocking at 38°C and 90 % relative humidity.

34. The method of claim 20 wherein said adhesive composition comprises:

a) from about 10 % by weight to about 90 % by weight of at least one crystalline water sensitive thermoplastic polymer;

b) from about 10 % by weight to about 90 % by weight of at least one amorphous water sensitive thermoplastic polymer; and

c) up to about 30 % by weight of at least one wax.

35. The method of claim 18 wherein said adhesive composition exhibits good block resistance when tested according to the Blocking Resistance Test Method.

36. The method of claim 35 wherein said adhesive composition is nonblocking at 38°C and 90 % relative humidity.

37. The method of claim 22 wherein said adhesive composition comprises:

a) from about 10 % by weight to about 90 % by weight of at least one crystalline water sensitive thermoplastic polymer;

b) from about 10 % by weight to about 90 % by weight of at least one amorphous water sensitive thermoplastic polymer; and

c) up to about 30 % by weight of at least one wax.

38. A method of making a container, said method comprising:

a) positioning a continuous fibrous composite between a first layer of a container composite and a second layer of a container composite, said continuous fibrous composite comprising a continuous fibrous substrate and a moisture activatable adhesive composition disposed on at least one surface of said continuous fibrous substrate; and

b) exposing said layers to moisture such that a fiber tearing bond is formed between said continuous fibrous composite and at least one of said first layer and said second layer.

TAB 3

MARKED-UP VERSION OF THE AMENDED AND NEW CLAIMS

17.(Amended) A method of reinforcing a container comprising:

a) providing [the] a continuous fibrous composite [of Claim 1] comprising a continuous fibrous substrate coated on at least one surface with a moisture activatable adhesive composition;

b) positioning said continuous fibrous [substrate] composite between at least two layers of a container; and

c) exposing said layers to moisture such that a fiber tearing bond is formed.

18.(Amended) A method of reinforcing a container comprising:

a) providing a continuous fibrous composite [of Claim 1] comprising a continuous fibrous substrate coated on at least one surface with a moisture activatable adhesive composition;

b) moistening said continuous fibrous composite; and

c) positioning said continuous fibrous composite on the surface of a container.

19.(New) The method of claim 17 wherein said adhesive composition is a remoistenable adhesive.

20.(New) The method of claim 19 wherein said adhesive composition is a hot melt remoistenable adhesive.

21.(New) The method of claim 18 wherein said adhesive composition is a remoistenable adhesive.

22.(New) The method of claim 21 wherein said adhesive composition is a hot melt remoistenable adhesive.

23.(New) The method of claim 17 wherein said adhesive composition exhibits good block resistance when tested according to the Blocking Resistance Test Method.

24.(New) The method of claim 19 wherein said remoistenable adhesive composition is disposed on at least two opposing surfaces of said composite.

25.(New) The method of claim 18 wherein said container further comprises a handle, said composite being disposed on a surface of said handle.

26.(New) The method of claim 17 wherein said composite is a tape ranging in width from about 0.2 mm to about 90 mm.

27.(New) The method of claim 17 wherein said composite is a string ranging in size from about 0.5 mm to about 5 mm.

28.(New) The method of claim 17 wherein said fibrous substrate is comprised of fiberglass, polyester, rayon, nylon, aramide fiber, a woven web, a non-woven web, and mixtures thereof.

29.(New) The method of claim 17 wherein the softening point of the fibrous substrate is greater than about 170°C.

30.(New) The method of claim 17 wherein said adhesive composition is a dried remoistenable water based adhesive and exhibits good block resistance when tested according to the Blocking Resistance Test Method.

31.(New) The method of claim 17 wherein said adhesive composition comprises at least 50 % moisture activatable ingredients.

32.(New) The method of claim 17 wherein said adhesive composition comprises at least one moisture activatable polymer.

33.(New) The method of claim 23 wherein said adhesive composition is nonblocking at 38°C and 90 % relative humidity.

34.(New) The method of claim 20 wherein said adhesive composition comprises:

a) from about 10 % by weight to about 90 % by weight of at least one crystalline water sensitive thermoplastic polymer;

b) from about 10 % by weight to about 90 % by weight of at least one amorphous water sensitive thermoplastic polymer; and

c) up to about 30 % by weight of at least one wax.

35.(New) The method of claim 18 wherein said adhesive composition exhibits good block resistance when tested according to the Blocking Resistance Test Method.

36.(New) The method of claim 35 wherein said adhesive composition is nonblocking at 38°C and 90 % relative humidity.

37.(New) The method of claim 22 wherein said adhesive composition comprises:

a) from about 10 % by weight to about 90 % by weight of at least one crystalline water sensitive thermoplastic polymer;

b) from about 10 % by weight to about 90 % by weight of at least one amorphous water sensitive thermoplastic polymer; and

c) up to about 30 % by weight of at least one wax.

38.(New) A method of making a container, said method comprising:

a) positioning a continuous fibrous composite between a first layer of a container composite and a second layer of a container composite, said continuous fibrous composite comprising a continuous fibrous substrate and a moisture activatable adhesive composition disposed on at least one surface of said continuous fibrous substrate; and

b) exposing said layers to moisture such that a fiber tearing bond is formed between said continuous fibrous composite and at least one of said first layer and said second layer.

[redacted]703 308 6916

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